

Claims 1 and 15 are amended to give the term "material" proper antecedent basis. Because the scope of the pending claims would be reasonably ascertainable to one of ordinary skill in the art when read in light of the specification, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, are satisfied. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-4, 10-11, 15-16, 18, 20 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,691,004 (Palazzolo). Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Palazzolo. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Palazzolo discloses a method of treating a light metal cylinder bore wall to receive a thermally-sprayed metallic coating. The method comprises machining or milling cylinder bore surface 13 using a cutting tool 14. Cooling fluid 16 is usually sprayed directly onto the tool end surface during the cutting operation. The fluid contains grease and oils in a fluid carrier that leaves an oily film on the machine surface and which retards oxidation of the exposed machine surface (col. 2, lines 43-49). Honing is then performed as tool 17 is used against surface 13 and is flushed by machining fluid 18 (col. 3, lines 1-5). See Figure 1.

Palazzolo does not teach or suggest dry cutting the interior of a hollow body. The term "dry cutting" means that no lubrication is used or that at most minimum lubrication with a volume flow of less than 150 ml/h is used in which the chips or the surface are considered to be dry (specification at page 2). Thus, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to practice the claimed methods in view of the teachings of Palazzolo which use cooling and

machining fluids. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

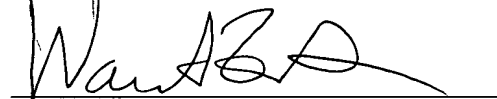
III. CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application should be in condition for allowance, and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #225/48098).

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Respectfully submitted,



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